MOTION PICTURES-STUDIO GOSSIP HIGH LIGHTS ON THE

THE NEW MOVIES

By Robert E. Sherwood

play has been accepted in va-vehicle for Strongheart, the magnifirious quarters as a deliberate rebuke cent dog star which appeared in "The of the silent drama by the literate Silent Call." public. People are so sick of the movies, we hear, that any one who comedy. seeks to satirize them and teach them their place is enthusiastically hailed which Gilda Varesi wrote and played as a deliverer.

One more or less dramatic critic in reviewing "Merton" said that he hoped it would be strong enough to force the Crane. movies to shut up shop.

This is a silly notion. One might as by Frank L. Packard. Directed by well say that the theater snould go out of business because it is effectively kidded in "Six Characters in Search". "Dr. Jack," Harold Lloyd's second kidded in "Six Characters in Search

nelly, who dramatized it, were aiming know what that is).
so much at the movies as at Merton. "My Friend the Devil," another He is really the arch-criminal in the "Sensational Super Special" from the case, for he is the person who is recase, for he is the person who is responsible for the quality of the films.

As H. L. Mencken has observed, "The kind of jackass who likes the movies as they are is the man who keeps has been entrusted to Douglas Machael they are,"

The Hottentot," the Borsey farce which William Collier played in New York two seasons ago. His old part has been entrusted to Douglas Machael they are,"

them what they are."

Merton Gill and all his brethren are well satisfied with the movies in their present state, as Messrs. Wilson, Kaufman and Connelly have been careful to point out.

rical figure. Ie represents and speaks for that vast element in our fair land which swears off further mental de-velopment on its fourteenth birthday.

The movies are not to blame for Merton Gill; he is to blame for the movies. It is he who pays the salary certainly looks soft for Rodolph Valenof Beulah Baxter, the wonder woman of the screen; it is he who subscribes of the screen; it is he who subscribes to all the fan magazines and believes their stories about home life in Hollywood; it is he who sends his savings to correspondence schools in acting and scenario writing, and it is he who resolutely rejects all attempts by the more enlightened members of the more enlightened members of the provide sentry to venture into the was presented with a twelve piece

It is true, of course, that the silent drama has served to organize the Mer-ton Gills and to give them a single-evidence of the change in policy which ness of purpose which they never had before. Ten years ago their humble interests were distributed over a wide variety of subjects. Now they are trated on one focal point.

We doubt, however, that they are any the worse for it. Certainly their imaginations are stirred more by a brain children received respectful Griffith picture than by a perusal of a treatment. This did not work out very Sears-Roebuck catalogue. Their res-thetic senses receive more encouragement from a two reel scenic than from an attempt to learn to play the autoharp in ten lessons. They derive more Hughes. harp in ten lessons. They derive all the first lectural stimulation from a film like "Tol'able David" than from the best novel that Bertha M. Clay ever shall Nellan, Maurice Tourneur and

dent of that city and the possessor of many grandchildren, who has never been to the movies. She has no knowledge of who the Hollywood stars are or where Hollywood is, and has no desire to learn. Indeed when asked whether she liked Charley Chaplin she naively inquired whether he was a

we sincerely trust that Will H. the p Hays will do something about this without further delay.

We have a letter from a gentleman in Alaska who protests against the theory, advanced in so many movie melodramas, that the Canadian North-

He explains that they have been after him for nine years, with negligible success.

We have always been suspicious of these stories about the miraculous efficiency of the Canadian cops. But these stories about the miraculous of the Canadian cops. But then—perhaps this cyrical attitude is influenced by the fact that we have spent so great a part of our life in to explain that time and space are New York city.

Looking shead we observe the fol-

lowing productions in the offing, and not so far off at that: "Shadows," an adaptation of Wilbur Daniel Steele's story "Ching, Ching. Chinaman." Directed by Tom Forman and played by a cast which includes Lon Chaney, Marguerite De La Motte, Harrison Ford and Walter Long. The advance reports on this picture are generally enthusiastic.

"The Beautiful and Damned," from F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel of decace in the great city. Marie Prevost is the featured flapper.

"One Week of Love," a pretentious melodrama with "mighty flood scenes, drama, pathos, romance, luxury-and box office value unparalleled." (We quote the trade paper advertisement.) Antonio,"

HE success of "Merton of the At any rate, Elaine Hammerstein and Movies" as a novel and as a Conway Tearle are in it.

"Day Dreams," a Buster Keaton

"Enter Madame," Clara Kimball with such considerable success.
"The Headless Horsemen," a cellu-

'old version of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," with Will Rogers as Ichabod

of an Author."

As a matter of fact, neither Harry
Leon Wilson, who wrote "Merton of the Movies," nor Kaufman and Conthe Movies," nor Kaufman and Conwith an underlying theme (if you

Statistics show that the average mo-Merton Gill is actually an allego-seats 507 people-

An examination was recently held in The sympathy which is generally expended on him is strengthened by the knowledge that he is typical. He is the public.

Albany for those who desire positions on the New York State Censorship Commission. There were twenty-eight applicants, nearly all of whom were young women.

We don't know whether the young

movie gentry to venture into the was presented with a twelve piece realms of intelligence. smoking set by admirers.

The news that Erich von Stroheim

that company has undergone.

Some three years ago Goldwyn organized the Eminent Authors, and stories. The writers themselves were to be on the spot when their own works were filmed to see that their well. In fact, only one of the eminent authors has been able to stand the test in Culver City—that exception

Hugo Ballin have been added to their

An entertainment will be given next Sunday evening by the concert party of the steamship Aquitania, at which they will present a short picture entitled "Vagaries of the Sea." It was made recently during a terrific storm

"Oliver Twist" has been "fictionized, and that the serial rights to this masterpiece, based on Jackie Coogan's screen classic, are now available to ewspapers throughout the country. Why doesn't some enterprising movie company go ahead and drama-tize "Hamlet"?

The film based on Einstein's Theory his overcoat pocket held a bottle, careof Relativity will be shown at the fully wrapped in paper. Righto in the near future. We wonder what the censors

of the provinces which rises from and doubtless Huntley is now busy its ashes each year. For the first time studying all the cases of locomotor legally married.

SOFT FOR ANIMAL ACTORS.

since it was presented originally by ataxia available. Richard Walton Tully it is not doing In the new Keith theaters the animal rooms are now a feature de luxe, with bothing pool, ice boxes for food and thermostats to regulate temperature. It is said that when the "Comedy Canles," "The Wise Cracking Cockatoos" and the "Sophisticated Simians" arrive at a theater not so equipped they register anger and dissatisfaction so loud that is beard at headquarters in the Palaco Theater Building.

It was produced in London about four months ago by Tully, with Willette Kershaw in the leading role, after he ving flown out of "Decameron Nights." The play has since been promises not to keep New York waiting for it long.

Bryant Washburn has just stepped the register and the play has since been promises not to keep New York waiting for it long.

Frank Tinney in "Daffy Dill."
MONTAUK THEATER-"The Boot-

TELLER'S SHUBERT THEATER-"The Monster," with Emmett Corrigan.
SHUBERT-RIVIERA THEATER,
MANHATTAN—Otia Skinner in "Mister In Current Photo Plays Along Broadway.



Real Life Parallels of 'Merton of the Movies'

Some Theatrical Sidelights

house elevator in two weeks.

Harry Beresford plays "The Old

The other day he was observed leav-

ing the Plymouth Theater and getting into a taxicab with a suitcase, while

Soak" with rare lifelikeness, but he is hardly the man to be in the character

off the stage. And yet-and yet-

wrote.

We have no intention of setting our selves up as a target for hourse laughter by stating that the movies are actually uplifting the Merton Gills and Tessie Kearness or pointing the way to better and finer things; but we domaintain, and stoutly, that the movies have brought into the lives of such people an appreciation for drama, romance and beauty which they never possessed before.

And if the movies ahould abut up shop to-morrow, and if every camera and every inch of perforated celluloid should vanish from this earth, Merton Gill and all his little playmates would still be alughd—still be inexpressibly pathetic.

All this should not be interpreted as an adverse criticism of "Merton of the Movies." It makes us that the day of box office titles as those with any every camera.

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A press dispatch from Portland, Metells us of Mrs. Blanche Doyle, a resident of that city and the possessor of many grandchildren, who has never dear search of the tacity and the possessor of the content of the conte

playlets were of good quality, if some-

Pictures of the Week

ASTOR—"The Town That Forgot God," directed by Harry Millardo. CAMEO—"What Fools Men Are," adapted from Eugene Walter's play, "The Flapper." Directed by George Terwilliger.

CAPITOL - "Hungry Hearts," based on stories by Anna Yezier-ska; directed by E. Mason Hop-CRITERION—"When Knighthood Was in Flower," directed by

Robert Vignola, with Marion Davies.

LYRIC - Douglas Fairbanks in "Robin Hood," directed by Allan Dwan.

RIALTO-"The Toll of the Sea," a

RIVOLI-"Singed Wings," adapted from Katherine Newlin Burt's story, Directed by Penrhyn Stan-laws, with Bebe Daniels and Conrad Nagel in the cast.

STRAND-"East is West." adaptman, with Constance Talmadge.

production of "Rupert of Hentzau." which will hook on for the present rage for costume plays in which the actors try gallantly not to notice that their sword is liable to trip their legs. Leah Baird, who has gone through the movie mill with Vitagraph and Universal, will resume her heritage or

Charles B. Cochran, London producer, has bought the English rights to "Rain," taking hardly a minute to that the ship encountered on one of her transatiantic trips, and if it shows the expressions on the faces of any of the passengers, it ought to be interesting.

The next incumbent at the Nora practically exery sketch having been sought. So George C. Tyler, George the Davidow and Le Maire processions, an imposing announcement from the offices of First National tells us that "Oliver Twist" has been "fictionized."

The next incumbent at the Nora practically exery sketch having been sought. So George C. Tyler, George deather the Davidow and Le Maire processions, and the Dav

> As this column is carried to press One of George Ade's sketches, by the player who would succeed Frank Bacon in the chief "Lightnin" comthe way, has been sandwiched unob-trusively into the "Greenwich Village pany had not yet been chosen by the gods through their carthly representa-tive, John Golden. After Bacon's Follies" during the past week, with no more fuss made over it than if Ade didn't come from Indiana and wasn't withdrawal John O'Hara stepped into famous. It marks the first time that any of Ade's literary output has it isn't likely that O'Hara, though an lurked on Broadway in several years. Another lusty road traveler, like Hugh Huntley, it is reported, win "Ben Hur," has been buried by the be the man to replace Lowell Sherman is in "The Fool" when Sherman is to be the Masked Woman,"

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E. PRESSON studio Red Carnette Hall, MILLER Thomas Circle 1350, she will never return to America to out in vaudeville at Los Angeles with act, and when last heard from was Mrs. Washburn in a sketch called making her way bravely toward Paris. "Just as Advertised," but later decided

to revert to the screen and postpone 15. Y. S hoof 52th St. All branches of of Musi & Art Day and Rearring Pupits. Almost every manager in town is his tour in the playlet till after Christ-reported to have made efforts to buy the skits offered by the Forty-niners, Frits von Tarlenheim in the Selznick

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excellent actor, will head this company when it marches upon Boston "The Greenwich Village Follies," and ett Moses, a lawyer of Nashville, it will be inaugurated at the Shubert Tenn., who is in his middle age but

It will probably be Thomas Jefferson, son of the famous Joseph—and thereby hangs one of the big surprises of the dramatic firmament—the discovery, one might say, of a new star. Jefferson was never ranked in the first flight as on actor, but recently on tour through the West he has seemed to come into his own in an Indian summer like that of the beloved Bacon.

It will be inaugurated at the Shubert Theater with much pomp and circumstance to-morrow.

Will Morrissey is taking into vaude-ville with him "The Love Girl." the musical comedy travesty by F. P. A., as well as "The Dance of the Small The closing fulfilled the prophecy of one of the press agents who was invited to handle the publicity, and who, after seeing a rehearsal didn't hesingth after easily breaking the short play would fold up your fold

come into his own in an Indian summer like that of the beloved Bacon.

George S. Kaufman has sold his advertising skit. "Life in the Back pages," one of the brightest bits from the season of the brightest bits from position to John Barrymore's "Ham-

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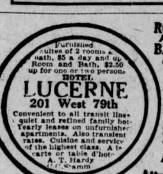
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